

Index Side A

- :50 Melarkey was born in 1899 in Michigan Bluff, Placer County, to Margaret and Patrick Dwyer, a miner.
- 2:25 Melarkey describes her small-town childhood.
- 4:00 Though the family did not celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Patrick Dwyer was proud of being Irish-American.
- 4:55 Melarkey came to Sacramento in 1917 to train at Mater Misericordiae at 23rd and R Streets.
- 6:05 She describes her nursing training as broad, include typhoid nursing and work in the diet kitchen. The nurses took classes at Sutter Junior High School at 18th and K Streets.
- 9:00 The hospital housed some fifty-five students. Sister Mary Aloysius was Superior. Sister Mary Baptist was in charge of the kitchen. Sister Mary Ursula was in charge of the surgery.
- 10:55 Some of the doctors practicing at the hospital were Dr. Henderson, Dr. Thomas Cox, Dr. James Coyle and Dr. [C.B.] McKee.
- 11:40 Melarkey trained for three years, from October 1917 to October 1920.
- 12:45 The Irish Rebellion was the subject of a fair amount of discussion [at the hospital].
- 14:25 The hospital sisters celebrated St. Patrick's Day with decorations and music in the recreation room.
- 16:10 Melarkey graduated in 1920, worked as a private duty nurse, and then married, in July of 1921, to Edward Melarkey, a car inspector for the Southern Pacific Railroad.
- 18:00 The Melarkeys lived on Q Street near 20th Street in a flat, and then on Yale Street. They eventually settle on U Street.
- 19:00 Irish neighbors were the O'Connors (in construction) the McCarthys (with the S.P.), the Griffins (in the Police Department), the Haleys (he was a lawyer),

Index Side A (cont.)

the O'Briens (he was a judge), and the McSweeneys (with the S.P.).

- 20:15 Prominent Irish at the time in Sacramento were the Rooneys, the Ryles, the O'Neils, the McHales, and the Kavanaghs (of the J Street bar Casey and Kavanagh's).
- 23:50 The parish church was Immaculate Conception, founded by Father Will Ellis. A 1915 celebration for the laying of the church cornerstone included a parade down Broadway.
- 25:50 Melarkey describes Father Ellis and his successor and brother Father John Ellis as having different personalities.
- 26:50 Some Italians, including the prominent Merlino family, attended Immaculate Conception Church.
- 29:10 Jim Foley, whose studio was on F Street near 17th Street, taught dancing to parish children for St. Patrick's Day Ball.

Index Side B

- :15 It cost one dollar to go to the St. Patrick's Day Ball at the Memorial Auditorium. The entertainment program included Irish music and dancing.
- 3:10 Irish people in the area congregated at Ryle's Tavern across from McClatchy Park. The tavern was owned for about thirty years by James and Hannah Ryle and their son Gerry. [Mrs. Melarkey mistakes grandson Father Gerry Ryle for his father]
- 7:15 The tavern was a long narrow room with a long bar, a large mirror, flanked by glass shamrocks and other such decorations.
- 8:10 The Rooney family's history includes many aspects of Sacramento life. James Rooney was a hop farmer in the Natomas District before Prohibition. The Rooneys and O'Neils had a baseball team in the 1920s. Joe Rooney later became Chief of Police.
- 10:50 Edward Melarkey worked for the S.P. for forty years.

Index Side B (cont.)

His wife feels that the S.P. tended to dispose of some employees prematurely in order to avoid paying pensions.

13:20 When Edward Melarkey died (before retirement) in 1957, Eunice Melarkey returned to nursing work for ten years in the Nursery at Mercy Hospital at 40th and J Streets.

14:00 Melarkey has two daughters, Barbara and Margaret, who are housewives, and a son, Patrick, who is a dentist, former county supervisor, and owner of the tavern Melarkey's Place.